Suggested MassParks Hikes!

Savoy Mountain State Forest

260 Central Shaft Rd, Florida, MA 01247, (413) 663-8469

To help you plan your visit to Savoy, we offer the following suggested hike and ride routes that we think visitors might enjoy. **Introductory hikes** are relatively short and appropriate for most users, including families with children. **Signature hikes** are recommended trail experiences that may be longer or more difficult, but that highlights some of the best features of this State Park.

Introductory Hike Haskins Trail to Bog Pond

Trailhead: Begin from the Campground or Haskins Trailhead on Florida Road.

Distance: 1.5 miles, Difficulty: Easy

Brief Description: Hike out the Haskins Trail, taking a right on Bog Pond Trail to explore Bog Pond. You can return via a loop on New State Road and the Haskins

Trail. A self-quided brochure is available here:

http://www.mass.gov/eea/docs/dcr/parks/trails/savoy-haskins.pdf

Introductory Hike Tannery Falls (and Parker too)

Trailhead: Begin at the trailhead parking area on Tannery Road

Lat/Long: 42.622089, -73.005137

Distance: 0.5 miles round trip, **Difficulty:** Easy / Moderate

Brief Description: Take the blue-blazed trail along Ross Brook which flows through a narrow and shallow gorge before its decent over the ledge. A walkway from the top of the falls leads down wooden steps to the base of the falls. Stay on the trail, bushwhacking off-trail is dangerous here. Below the falls, Ross and Parker Brooks converge. Nearby is Parker Brook Falls impressive in its own right, pouring through a sluice in the angled bedrock. Cross over Parker Brook and follow the blazed trail up along Parker Brook to return to the parking lot. Look for the remains of the mills along the way.

Signature Hike

Mahican Mohawk Trail to Spruce Hill

Trailhead: Start at the trailhead on the north side of North Pond, **Lat/Long:** 42.654257, -73.053129 **Distance:** 7.2 miles round trip, **Difficulty:** Difficult

Brief Description: Make sure you have a map. Take the North Pond Loop trail to the second intersection with the Blackburnian Loop. Head north to the Lost Pond Trail. You are now in one of the most remote regions of the state. Follow to the Busby trail and up to the Spruce Hill summit with spectacular views of the Hoosic Valley, Mt Greylock and the Berkshire Highlands.

Things to Remember:

- Time, distance, difficulty: average hiker pace is estimated at 1.5 miles per hour. Most distances are <u>round-trip</u>. Plan conservatively, start early. Be aware of weather and sunset. Trail difficulty ratings based on ruggedness and gradient are *easy, moderate, or difficult*.
- Wear weather appropriate clothing, layer for temperature changes. Apprpriate footware is a must. Trails can be wet.
- Parking at trailheads: Parking fees may apply. Space may be limited. Be courteous to avoid blocking in others. Do not leave valuables in your car.
- Bring a map, and share your plans with someone.
- **Drinking water** is usually not available. Bring plenty! Trailside sources should be treated.
- Stay on designated trails: Follow painted blazes and signs if available. Double blazes indicate an intersection or direction change.
- Pace & group size: keep your group together; hike only as fast as your group's slowest hiker or rider. Limit group size to 12 people or fewer to lessen impacts.
- Carry-in, carry-out all trash: Leave No Trace outdoor ethics are strongly encouraged. For more information visit http://www.lnt.org/programs/principles.php
- Pets are generally permitted on 10-foot maximum leash and under at all times. Please clean up after your pet and dispose of all waste outside of park. Be aware of local park rules and that not all users appreciate encountering pets, even when friendly.
- Be aware that some trails are not well marked.
- **Be aware of hunting seasons** and wear blaze orange when appropriate. For season info visit: http://www.mass.gov/dfwele/dfw/regulations/abstracts/hunting_dates.pdf

